

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

December 2010 – Week 2

Air Date: December 5 – December 11 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: CURSE OF THE BANISHED

DECEMBER 1830 AND A BANISHED TEXAN GETS HIS WISH.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

DECEMBER 7, 1830. SAN FELIPE. THE CAPITAL OF STEPHEN F. AUSTIN'S COLONY, SAN FELIPE IS A MODEL COMMUNITY. WHEN THE TOWN ALCALDE IS KILLED, HIS MURDERER, HIRAM FRILEY, IS QUICKLY ARRESTED.

BUT HIS FRIEND NOAH SMITHWICK IS UPSET. HE GIVES HIM A FILE AND A GUN AND HELPS HIM ESCAPE. FRILEY IS SOON CAUGHT AND KILLED. THE GUN IS TRACED BACK TO SMITHWICK AND HE IS ORDERED BANISHED FROM TEXAS. AS MEN ARRIVE TO TAKE HIM TO THE BORDER, SMITHWICK CURSES FIRE TO RAIN DOWN ON SAN FELIPE.

SIX YEARS LATER, SAN FELIPE WAS BURNED TO THE GROUND BY RETREATING TROOPS. SMITHWICK EVENTUALLY RETURNED TO TEXAS.

NOAH SMITHWICK WAS BANISHED 180 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Margaret Swett Henson, "SMITHWICK, NOAH", *Handbook of Texas Online*, (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fsm50>), accessed November 14, 2010

Charles Christopher Jackson, "SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN, TX", *Handbook of Texas Online*, (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hls10>), accessed November 16, 2010

Evolution of a State or Recollections of Old Texas Days by Noah Smithwick, UT Press

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